



Surfside Town Gazette

October 2008

Mayor's View



Dear Friends
and Neighbors,

As I write to you today, September 11, 2008, I'm very mindful of the great challenges we have faced in the recent past and have worked hard to overcome. Certainly and thankfully most of what happens in our Town has been positive, but we've certainly had our share of fallout from the National scene lately. Specifically, I refer to the housing and mortgage crash and crunch, which has affected each of us personally and as a community.

Clearly Government has now also begun to feel the pinch (soon to be a jab) of its constituents' pain. While we all are downsizing, cutting back, budgeting, suffering from falling incomes and the like, Surfside's Administration has presented a budget that attempts to keep their revenues from falling. That means higher real estate tax

rates on your homes, higher water and sewer rates and other higher taxes are coming your way.

While I was not able to convince a majority of the Commission that raising real estate taxes is a very bad idea and most voted for a tax increase, excepting yours truly and our newest Commissioner, I do

"While I could spend pages talking about a new report on our garbage department that says some employees work less than 2 hours a day in some cases, or that the administration expenses of the Tourist Bureau are virtually 75% of the resort tax proceeds, I won't because the foregoing sadly says it all."

Public Information Meeting on the Bond Referendum

**Thurs. Oct. 16 at 7:00 pm
in Commission Chambers**

believe that they will hear from our residents directly and that may get their attention. I think some of your elected officials believe the scare tactic that if we hold the line on raising taxes, vital services will have to be cut. We've heard this before and if departments and our administrators can't cut spending and increase efficiencies, then something is very wrong. We all do it in our own lives and businesses when it's needed!

Clearly, it's the administration's job to deal with the minor details of

(Continued on page 6)

**NOVEMBER
COMMISSION
MEETING**
*is re-scheduled to
Mon., Nov. 10
at 7:00 pm. in
Commission Chambers*

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A Message From Vice Mayor, Marc Imberman

I hope that you all had a pleasant summer, and have settled back into your usual routines without too much difficulty. Although most of the community is usually satisfied to stay out of the day-to-day necessities of maintaining the oceanfront oasis that is Surfside, on November 4th we will have the opportunity and obligation to step up and make some important decisions at the voting booth.



Vice Mayor,
Marc Imberman

To my mind, the most important issue to be decided is whether or not to build a new Community Center and Pool. The old Center was years past its required forty-year recertification deadline. When it became obvious that the building was not safe, it could not accommodate the needs of Surfsiders for the next 40 years, and that to renovate it to the point where it was both in compliance with current codes and useable for 21st Century Surfside was almost as expensive as building a new state-of-the-art facility, the Commission moved forward swiftly to get a new Center and Pool built. Numerous public input sessions were held, architects and project managers hired, and the plans began to take shape. As of now, construction plans are being finalized, and the project will go in front of the Planning & Zoning Board for review. Based on the current timetable, we expect the new facility to be open at the end of next year.

Of course, we have to pay for the project, and spending all our savings would be irresponsible. As the experts have told us, most capital projects of this size are completed by issuing Municipal Bonds. The fiscally responsible approach is to spread the cost out over the next thirty years, minimizing the impact on current residents. This requires a General Obligation Bond to be issued, which requires approval by the voters. Although the ballot measure is couched in terms of voting yes or no for a general obligation bond to pay for

the new facility, in reality it is yes or no for the Center itself; without the bond, it's probable that the Center will not be built, and we will have no community pool or library. It would make no economic sense to build a smaller facility now, only to knock it down in a few years when the majority of the Town decides the larger facility was critical after all, so the space should just remain empty until the appropriate Center can be built.

Of course, I am confident that the majority of residents are in favor of building the new facility as proposed. They understand the importance of a Community Center to the Town, and are willing to assume the relatively low cost to construct it. The question to these residents is: Will you all come out and vote? Now more than ever, the Town is depending on you to make your voices heard.

What will the new facility cost you? The simple answer is that it will cost each household approximately \$1 every year for each \$1000 your house is assessed at for tax purposes, after homestead and senior citizen exemptions. For the average Surfside home, calculated to be assessed at \$294,000, the Community Center and Pool would cost about \$300 in the first year. If that home can claim the Homestead exemption, the amount would be closer to \$250. At this point you should have received your home's new assessed value from the County, so the calculation should be easy.

I strongly support the General Obligation Bond issue.

Surfside voters will also get to vote whether to contract with Miami Beach for fire/rescue, instead of paying taxes to the County. An independent expert prepared a report of the pros and cons of this switch, which is available on the Town website, or at Town Hall. However, the report does not deal with several issues:

- The County is building a rescue sta-

tion in Bay Harbor Islands, potentially improving our level of service.

- The County has threatened to charge us every time they would have to help Miami Beach cover us for large events.
- The Miami Beach Commission has not officially approved their side of the bargain (and may never do so, according to Miami Beach Mayor, Matti Bower's public statements at the September 4, 2008 Board of County Commissioners meeting).
- The County Commission may succeed in outlawing the cities with fire departments from providing fire/rescue service to other cities, so the vote may be moot.
- The County has warned us that they will sue us to stop us from leaving their system, so any cost savings from switching providers may go to legal fees instead, even if we win the case.

Although I don't like the County's heavy-handed approach, I don't think this is the right time for Surfside to get involved in expensive litigation when the benefits are not guaranteed.

I do not support the proposed switch to Miami Beach for fire/rescue services at this time.

Finally, we will have the opportunity to amend the Town Charter to make our Commissioner elections more open and fair, by voting for a change in our election system. Under the proposed system, Surfside would return to its pre-1994 practice of electing the four candidates who receive the most votes overall to be the Commission (the Mayor would still be elected separately). Voters will then be able to vote for their four favorite candidates, not just the one in each race they dislike least.

I strongly support the election reform charter amendment.

If you have any questions, or want to tell me your opinion, please email me at mimberman@townofsurfsidefl.gov.

I'll see you at the polls,

Marc

COMMISSIONER'S CORNER - Howard Weinberg

Greetings Neighbors: I write this month to share two major pieces of information with you, both having to do with important Park and Recreation issues. First I will discuss the 96th Street Park Grant and then the Community Center Bond Issue.

As you may remember, last year I worked to bring in almost \$1,000,000 in grant money to build new pump stations so that we can treat storm water runoff and alleviate street flooding. I also tried for a multi-million dollar grant to expand the 96th Street Park. We got the Pump Station Grant but missed out on the Park Grant. I wrote in this column that I felt confident that this year when I went back to Tallahassee, we would succeed in getting the Park Grant. You saw fit to re-elect me in March and as such I did go back to Tallahassee recently. I am pleased to report that the effort was successful! Over ninety municipalities tried to get funded. Only 18 finished in the money including Surfside. When I gave our presentation I was very cognizant of the fact that not a single member of the Governing Board was from South Florida. It made our job more difficult. The presentation earned enough bonus points to put us in the money (12th place). Special thanks go out to our outstanding Grant Writer and to our Lobbyist. This was something we have been working on for a couple of years. The grant is worth millions and will hopefully allow us to greatly expand the size of the 96th

Street Park. The expansion will include among other amenities, a historic home from 1921, passive green space, beautiful landscaping, waterfront seating areas, a boat launch for kayaks and other non-motorized boats, a possible nature center or Surfside historic museum, and the site already contains a swimming pool. The only caveat is that the owner of the property, although having previously signed a "Willingness To Sell Letter" will not be legally obligated to sell the property if he is not satisfied with the three independent appraisals that the State commissions. Hopefully in this market the owner will be pleased to have a buyer ready, willing, and able to pay full market value for the property.

I am very pleased to have been instrumental in bringing home two major grants to the taxpayers in Surfside in my 2.5 years of public service to you. I am going to keep at it!

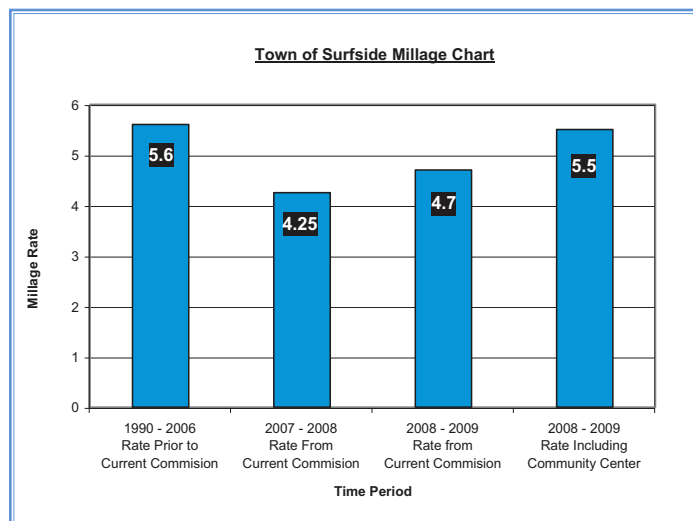
Now on to the Community Center. Much has been said out in the community at large. A good deal of the information being bandied about is misleading or downright false. I am going to attempt to succinctly explain the issues in a way that makes it easier for you to make an informed decision. I urge anyone that wishes to discuss the matter further to email me.

For many years, every homeowner in Surfside has paid property taxes at the rate of 5.6 Mills. That rate goes all the way back to 1990 (Prior to that the rate was higher). All of you paid Surfside taxes at that rate every year. The members of the current Commission, cut your taxes very significantly. This year the Mill rate will be approximately 4.7 Mills (The additional Mill rate for the Community Center is approximately 0.8491). As such, if the bond passes, your total Surfside Mill rate

will be 5.55. Therefore, despite all of the mis-information you may have heard, Surfside taxpayers will be paying taxes at a rate that is slightly LESS than they have historically paid but they will be getting a fantastic brand new Community Center/Aquatic Facility/Beach Club/Library/Fitness Center/Special Event Center. This is the reality. Keep in mind that **if the property tax rate had not been reduced by the current Commission and had stayed at 5.6 Mills, the Community Center could have been financed without ANY additional Millage for the Bond. The funds to service the Bond debt to build the Community Center could have come directly from earmarked existing property tax revenues (commencing after a referendum).** Perhaps that is where the idea came from that we "had the money" to pay for the Community Center - with the old Mill rate of 5.6 we had the cash flow to cover the debt service. Your current elected officials saw fit to give you a substantial tax break last year. It is my belief that the Administration and the Commission failed to properly explain to you at that time that if and when we built a new or refurbished Community Center we would be required to make up that lost revenue. The fact is, I prefer this Bond Referendum the way it is because YOU now have the choice to either pocket the tax savings that the Commission gave to you, (5.6 Mills vs. 4.7 Mills) or to apply the savings toward an amazing new Community Center. If you vote to pocket the tax savings just be aware that we will NOT have a library, lap pool, auditorium, fitness center, splash pool or any of the other amenities. In the alternative, you should also know that **voting YES to the Community Center will NOT result in paying taxes at a higher rate than you paid** (Continued on page 4)



Commissioner
Howard Weinberg



COMMISSIONER'S CORNER - Steven Levine

I first came to Surfside in the summer of 1974. My parents were vacationing down here, and unbeknownst to the kids, also looking for a house. That summer I went with my brother and sister to the Surfside Community Center. I thought it was a country club; at least that was what they were called up in New York. The only thing missing was that the men weren't playing pinocle and the women weren't playing mah jong. But what there was, was a spirit of community that was warm and friendly. We all made friends that summer, swimming in the pool and sucking on ices from the snack bar. I couldn't wait to come back the next summer.

Fast forward twelve years. I was practicing at the Dade County Public Defender's Office and was engaged and looking for a house with my fiancée (the still beautiful Elizabeth Levine). We only looked in one neighborhood - Surfside. I wanted my kids to be so close that they could ride their bikes to school, and to know the great summers that I did, swimming and playing at the Surfside Community Center. All of that came to pass.

Unfortunately, that great old community center is gone. It was old, decaying, in need of repairs that no contractor would guarantee, and so we were faced with a decision. We either fix it, or tear it down. When this issue was first being considered by the commission under

then Mayor Tim Will, I remember sitting as a commissioner and listening to everyone's concerns. There was a big meeting in the auditorium of the old center. We were told by three firms that had bid the job that renovation would be the more inexpensive way to go. However, the firms cautioned that after the building was stripped down to its skin, and the concrete was exposed, the rebar may be rusted inside, there might be structural cracks, and other unforeseen problems, that might ultimately make it necessary to demolish the building anyway. To save \$500,000 and run that risk, might ultimately end up costing us more in time and money. Mayor Will did some math on a now famous napkin, factoring in how much a pool would cost, and gave the commission a figure which we voted on to go ahead and renovate.

Fast forward to September 2008. Tim Will's napkin can't be found, but our community spirit remains strong. The kids are still here, the programming for them through our fantastic Parks & Recreation Department is here, and most important, the need for a new Community Center, and the desire to build it are still here. The new Community Center will be the centerpiece of our beautiful town. Because of concerns over global warming, our town is taking the lead in municipal planning and making sure the building is

L.E.E.D. certified (i.e. - a "green building"). It will have all the features that a community center should have - a library with computers

and study rooms, a fitness studio with exercise classes on the ground floor, which connects to the locker rooms for the two magnificent pools we're building - one for toddlers - a zero depth/splash pool with spray fountains, etc, and the other with a water slide and five swimming lanes (5,000 & 6,000 sq. ft. respectively). There will be a game room for the kids and a snack bar for all. There will be an auditorium/banquet room with a warming kitchen, activity rooms, multipurpose rooms, and expanded programming - senior programs, adult educations, adult fitness, etc.

This is our chance to build a beautiful facility, one that we all can be proud of. It is a facility that we can afford, and one that will reap benefits for us for generations to come. We each can pave the way by buying a brick and putting your family name on the path that leads to the brand new Surfside Community Center, occupancy expected early 2010.



Commissioner
Steven Levine

Commissioner Weinberg (Continued from page 3)

virtually every year from as far back as 1990. In fact, you will STILL be paying taxes at a rate that is slightly LESS (5.6 Mills vs. 5.55 Mills). Anyone that tells you differently is giving you mis-information.

I think it is important to have a good idea of the real cost to homeowners to build this fabulous facility. A homesteaded property with an assessed value of \$250,000 will pay approximately \$169.81 per year. For a homestead with an assessed value of \$750,000 the pay-

ment is around \$594.37 per year. The average payment per home will be approximately \$250. It is my belief that choosing to pocket this savings is not nearly as good of an investment as voting YES to putting the tax savings toward the Community Center. The day the Community Center opens, Surfside becomes not just a slice of paradise as it is now, but the most desirable, idyllic, delightful, residential community in all of Florida and beyond.

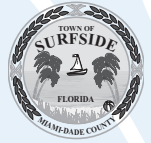
I hope to see you in the pool on Opening Day!

ELECTION UPDATE! Surfside, Florida November 4, 2008

The Official Special Election
Sample Ballot is now posted
on the Town website
www.townofsurfsidefl.gov
and will be mailed to Surfside
registered voters by the
end of October.



Surfside Commission Highlights



At the Commission Meeting held on September 9, 2008 the following Ordinance was adopted:

1. An Ordinance of the Town of Surfside, Florida, amending Chapter 42, "Floods," Article II, Sections 42.26 through 42.62; amending and replacing the Town's current Floodplain Management Standards to comply with the new Flood Insurance Rate Map and Flood Insurance Study issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency; providing for severability; and repeal of conflicting provisions; providing for inclusion in the Code and providing for an effective date. **VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

The following Ordinances were adopted on First Reading. Second Reading will be held on the date indicated:

2. An Ordinance of the Town of Surfside, Florida; amending the Town Code by creating Chapter 4 "Liens for Town Services" to provide for placement, enforcement and collection of liens against properties by the Town of Surfside for delinquent payment for Town Services, including Solid Waste, Water, Sewer and Stormwater Utility Services; providing for severability; providing for inclusion in the Code and providing for an effective date. (Second Reading date: October 14, 2008) **VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

3. An Ordinance of the Town of Surfside, Florida amending Section 66-35, "Schedule of Fees" of the Code of Ordinances to establish new rates for solid waste removal which shall be effective beginning fiscal year 2009; providing for severability; providing for an effective date of October 1, 2008. (Second Reading date: October 14, 2008) **VOTE: 4-1 (Mayor Burkett dissenting)**

4. An Ordinance of the Town of Surfside, Florida, amending Section 66-36, "Recycling" of the Code of

Ordinances to establish new rates for solid waste recycling which shall be effective beginning fiscal year 2009; providing for severability; providing for an effective date of October 1, 2008. (Second Reading date: October 14, 2008) **VOTE: 4-1 (Mayor Burkett dissenting)**

5. An Ordinance of the Town of Surfside, Florida, establishing new monthly minimum services charges for water supply service which shall be effective beginning fiscal year 2009; providing for severability; providing for an effective date of September 25, 2008. (Second Reading date: October 14, 2008) **VOTE: 4-1 (Mayor Burkett dissenting)**

6. An Ordinance of the Town of Surfside, Florida, amending Section 78-56, "Monthly Sewer Service Charge" of the Code of Ordinances to establish new rates for sewer service which shall be effective beginning fiscal year 2009; providing for severability; providing for an effective date of September 25, 2008. (Second Reading date: October 14, 2008) **VOTE: 4-1 (Mayor Burkett dissenting)**

The following Resolutions were approved at the September 9, 2008 Meeting:

7. A Resolution of the Town Commission of the Town of Surfside, Florida, providing for the fiscal year 2007-2008 police confiscation fund expenditure in the amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be funded by proceeds of confiscated funds; and providing for an effective date **VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

8. A Resolution of the Town Commission of the Town of Surfside, Florida establishing the rate for equivalent residential unit (ERU) to be used in calculating stormwater utility rates; providing for implementation and providing for an effective date. **VOTE: 4-1 (Mayor Burkett dissenting)**

9. A Resolution of the Town

Commission of the Town of Surfside, Florida, authorizing the Town Manager or his designee to revised and re-negotiate certain parking related fees; with future revisions to parking related fees to be adjusted by administrative order; and to establish for hybrid vehicles free parking program and providing for effective date. **VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

10. A Resolution of the Town Commission of the Town of Surfside, Florida, authorizing salaried employees to receive payment during a state of emergency when a local declaration is established by the Mayor, Vice Mayor, or in their absence by any other elected official; and providing for an effective date. **VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

In other matters...

The Town Commission set the November meeting date to Monday, November 10, 2008.

Ms. Priscilla Krutules was recognized as Civilian of the Month for August, 2008.

The Town Commission renewed the South Florida Money Laundering Strike Force Mutual Aid Agreement with the State Attorney's Office.

The Commission directed the Police Department to go out to bid for the Meter Parking System Pay stations.

An Ordinance that will restrict the sale of live animals in the business district was referred to the Planning and Zoning Board for further review and recommendation.

The Project Management for the Community Center Project work authorization was approved.

The Commission received the Fire Rescue Services Delivery Report.

SURFSIDE LIBRARY

Storytime: Will be held on Tues., October 14, from 10:00 until 11:00 a.m. The library is closed Tuesday mornings, so please knock on the door for admittance. Storytime is open to children age 4 and under.

For your reading pleasure...

ADULT BOOKS:

Fiction:

- Sail *by James Patterson* (suspense)
- Good People *by Marcus Sakey* (suspense)

Non Fiction:

- Greening Your Home *by Clayton Bennett*
- Green Chic: Saving The Earth In Style *by Christie Matheson*

CHILDREN'S BOOKS:

- Clifford's Halloween *by Norman Bridwell* (easy reader)
- In The Haunted House *by Eve Bunting* (easy reader)
- P.J. Clover, Private Eye-The Case of the Halloween Hoot *by Susan Meyers* (junior fiction)
- Wangary's Trees of Peace: A True Story From Africa *by Jeanette Winter*
- Our Library *by Eve Bunting*
- Anime *by Hal Marcovitz*

DVD's

- Marigold (PG-13) • Frank (PG) • My Sassy Girl (PG-13)



Mayor's View

(Continued from front page)

the budget as they are there on a daily basis. All together, careful attention to those small items keep us on track financially or the lack thereof puts us on the slippery slope to needing more tax money because, those little items added together create the big picture – which is where I believe the Commission needs to take responsibility – which is where my no vote, my recommendations to our Manager and this letter come in.

While I could spend pages talking about a new report on our Sanitation Department that says some employees work **less than 2 hours a day** in some cases, or that **the administration expenses of the Tourist Bureau are virtually 75% of the resort tax proceeds**, I won't because the foregoing says it all. Needless to say, there is much, much more that must be done to make very sure situations such as these are immediately corrected. Of course, correcting just these two issues would result in tremendous financial savings

and benefit to our residents and taxpayers. What other cost saving issues have been missed?

Of course I'm not happy we have less revenue than we did last year because of falling real estate tax receipts, but we've got to deal with it. I expect this is not going to be the last time we're faced with this issue, so we might as well get started practicing good government on less tax revenue!

In other bad news, the Florida Supreme Court stripped away the opportunity for Florida voters to choose to reduce their real estate taxes by nearly 40%. This measure would, in my opinion, have taken important steps to more fairly allocate school funding and relieved Florida's struggling homeowners from bearing the entire burden of funding our schools. Not even being able to have a vote on the matter – so much for the voters' right to choose. It's very frustrating to say the least!

Also challenging is the County, along with our County representative and Dade County Fire Union working overtime to kill our opportunity to use Miami Beach as our Fire Department.

Most County leaders are happy to ignore the fact that with this switch, it's likely that with the money Surfside would save, we could fund every one of our wish list items without raising a dime in taxes here in Town! While our County Representative rambles on with excuses about why it wouldn't work, it's obvious to anyone that looks at the matter that it's a home run for everyone involved. Additionally, two newly released comprehensive reports on the subject confirm that going with Miami Beach would be a good move. See the report online at our website!

Here's this month's lesson and bottom line for me: I've learned we've got to be very careful about whom we put in office and, understand as best we can, what kind of people they are and what they stand for.

Thanks for listening.

All the best,

Charlie

TOURIST BUREAU UPCOMING EVENTS:



FARMER'S MARKET.....Beginning Nov. 16, and every Sunday through April, in the NW Parking Lot at Collins Avenue & 95th Street, 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Local vendors will provide organic and conventional produce, plants, flowers and prepared foods.

"SURFSIDE 3RD THURSDAYS on Harding".....Beginning on Nov. 20 through April 16. Stroll Harding Avenue between 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. and visit the many merchants and restaurants participating in this unique event. Entertainers, fashion shows, informal modeling, wine tastings, art exhibits, cooking demonstrations, mini classes in flowering arranging, beauty makeovers, holiday celebrations and much more.



For further details, please contact (305) 864-0722.



SURFSIDE BOOK CLUB



The Surfside Book Club is set to meet on Tuesday, October 21 at 7:00 p.m. The book selection is **"Cuba" by Stephen Coonts**. Join other Surfside readers for fun and lively discussion. Please be sure to confirm date, time, and place by contacting Kim at: kimjo614@the-beach.net

BUSINESS DISTRICT NEWS



Piri Piri, located at 9517 Harding Avenue has just expanded its original menu to include the rainbow cuisine of South Africa. Experience the unique Piri Piri grilled chicken, ribs and the signature item, the "Bakkie". The "Bakkie" is served with wild rice, piri piri chicken, steak, shrimp, salmon or veggie pattie, plus pita and bunny chow. Try the super lunch special for \$5.00.

The original owners of Bianca's gourmet, David and Rob are known for their friendly service and great food, ready for you and your family. The restaurant is open for breakfast, lunch and early dinner, 7 days a week (305) 861-6886.

SURFSIDE PD's



Costume Suggestions:

- 1) Keep costumes simple, short to prevent falling & they should be fire-proof.
- 2) Costumes should be made out of light colored material, with reflective patches or strips, to enhance visibility at night.
- 3) Use make-up instead of a mask so vision is not restricted.
- 4) Write the child's name on the inside of the costume in case of an accident or if he/she gets lost.

Risky Roads:

- 1) Obey all traffic rules & watch for cars.
- 2) Cross only at corners.
- 3) If there is no sidewalk, walk facing traffic.

Trick or Treat Safely:

- 1) Feed your children before they go out so they won't be tempted to eat treats before they've been properly checked. Remind your children not to eat any treats before you've inspected the candy.

- 2) A responsible adult should accompany the group.
- 3) Never enter a home.
- 4) Carry a flashlight or glow stick.

Contact Police:

- 1) Notify the police if harmful items are found in treats.
- 2) Report all criminal activities such as criminal mischief, rowdy groups of kids or speeding cars.



HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HALLOWEEN



PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

SENIOR'S PERFORMING ARTS TRIP



Tony Award winning musical "1776" Wed., Oct., 15th
(Non-refundable) Fee Includes Transportation to Playhouse
\$15 for Residents / \$30 Non-Residents

Registration in progress & on a first come basis. Call (305) 866-3635.



The following YOUTH programs are in progress:



Youth Instructional Soccer, Gymnastics, Acrobatics & Tumbling, Hip Hop Jazz Dance,
Kidokinetics for Tots (Ages: 2-4) and Kidokinetics (Ages: 3-5),
Pre-School Ballet, Youth Ballet, Chess, and Arts & Crafts.



The following ADULT classes are in progress:

Zumba, Pilates, Yoga, and Yogalates.



SENIOR Programs

Yoga for Active Adults

Ages: 55 and over only

Fees: Residents \$36 / Non-Residents \$60
(per person = 12 classes)

Wednesday: September 24 - December 17

Time: 9:00 - 10:00 am

No Class November 26



Senior Social Time

Every Wednesday,

from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. in the

Parks and Recreation

modular unit behind Town Hall. Seniors are

invited to drop in for free activities

which include bridge, chess, scrabble and mah jong.



Upcoming Parks & Recreation Department Events:

Event	Date	Time	Location
Veteran's Day Ceremony	November 11, 2008	10:00 AM	Veteran's Park
Fall Harvest Festival	November 23, 2008	TBA	96th Street Park
Family Fun Day	January 25, 2009	TBA	TBA
Winter 5K	February 15, 2009	TBA	94th Street (Behind the Best Western)

THE MIAMI SHORES AQUATIC CENTER

(10200 Biscayne Blvd., 305.795.2241)

The Aquatic Center will be CLOSED on
October 20 for superchlorination.



SURFSIDE BEACH CLUB

(October)



Sunday - Saturday
9:00 am - 5:00 pm



Residents & Non-Residents
Please Note: Rental fees apply for
umbrellas & chairs

Surfside Tennis Center

The regularly scheduled Hours of Operation are listed below:



Monday - Thursday
Friday - Sunday

8:30 am to 10:00 pm
8:30 am to 5:30 pm



“Junior Clinic”

Saturday Ages 9 - 11 9:30 pm -10:30 pm
Fee: \$17 per person for residents / \$19 per person for non-residents
(Maximum 4 students, Reservation Required)

“Meet, Greet, and Play Tennis”

Monday Adult 8:00 pm -10:30 pm
Thursday Adult 8:00 pm -10:30 pm
Fee: \$9 per person for residents / \$10 per person for non-residents



“Sign Up Doubles”

Wednesday Adult / Juniors 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
Reservation Required
Fee: \$6 per person for residents / \$8 non-residents per person.

Match making services. Let us make a tennis match for you.
For more information contact the Tennis Center at (305) 866-5176.



Attention Surfside Residents and Business Owners!!!

Your
Emergency Information Hotline Number Is:
(305) 993-1070



In the event of an emergency, the Police Department will inform residents and business owners via the Website, Channel 77, the Publix Bulletin Board, and postings in Town Hall as to when the Hotline Number will be activated & operational. Once the number is activated, residents and business owners should call the hotline number during its operational hours, with questions specific to the Town of Surfside.

In the event of a hurricane or other disaster, residents and business owners can call the hotline number & obtain emergency information about:

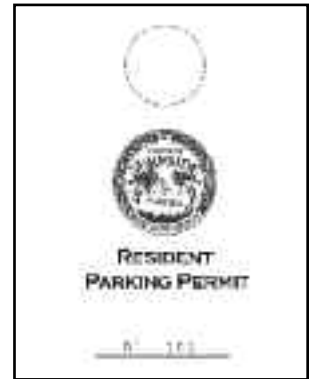
**town services • road closures
evacuation procedures • electrical power status
and
assistance for the elderly & special needs residents.**

THE FREE METERED PARKING PROGRAM CONTINUES

Residents Need To Re-Register for Valid Parking Permits

The Town Commission will continue free metered parking for Surfside residents. The red colored parking tags currently in use expired on September 30, 2008. However, a grace period will be in effect until **Friday, October 17, 2008. After that date, parking tickets will be issued.**

New parking permits will be available for pick-up at Town Hall (9293 Harding Avenue), beginning on Monday, October 13th between 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Residents wishing to obtain a valid parking pass must re-register their vehicle (s) at Town Hall. The expiration date of the new pass will be September 30, 2009.



PLEASE NOTE: ONLY TWO PERMITS PER HOUSEHOLD WILL BE ISSUED.

To obtain a permit, Surfsiders are required to bring an acceptable proof of residency and their license plate number. Proof of acceptable residency examples include, but are not limited to:

- A current driver's license with a Surfside address
- Water bill
- Property tax bill
- Rental or lease agreement

The permits should be hung, clearly visible, from the vehicle's rearview mirror.

THE FOLLOWING PARKING RULES CONTINUE TO BE IN EFFECT:

- The Permit is not valid at Harding Avenue parking meters (9400 & 9500 blocks)
- Permit parking is limited to 4 hours in any location.
- The Permit cannot be used for all day or overnight parking.
- The Permit is non-transferable.

If you have any questions, please call (305) 861-4863 for further information.

Police Explorer Program: New Recruits Welcome

The Surfside Police Explorers Program, began in 2006. It is designed for young men and women, 14-21 years of age, who meet once a week from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Participants are given the opportunity to interact directly with police officers and learn about law enforcement. After the completion of a probationary phase, the explorers are issued a uniform and gear belt. They are then allowed to conduct ride-alongs

with sworn officers during their tour of duty on the streets, and the explorers also receive training in a variety of police topics.

The Explorer Program develops leadership skills and discipline in its members. It teaches ethical standards and stresses the importance of community service. Nationwide, many explorers pursue law enforcement careers.

The Surfside Explorer Program is led

by Police Officer John Gentile, a former participant in the program. He has unselfishly given of his time and energy to make the Surfside Explorer Program a success and always welcomes new "explorer recruits".

If anyone would like further details about the program or would like to register, please contact Officer Gentile at (305) 861-4862.

Priscilla Krutules Named Civilian Of The Month

At the Commission meeting held on September 9th the Surfside Police Department recognized the outstanding efforts of one of their civilian employee.

Priscilla Krutules is the Administrative Assistant to the Chief of Police and performs a multitude of tasks that are critical to the daily operation of the Department. The Chief and Assistant Chief call upon Priscilla to type letters, send faxes, file documents,

and make copies. Priscilla oversees the department's purchasing, monitors the leased office equipment and ensures that invoices are processed and paid. She maintains files on all vendors for quick and easy reference. She is very involved in the Police Department budget process and is the "go to" person for any budget questions or information.

Priscilla is the first point of contact for people calling in to the Chief's

Office and she does a terrific job answering their questions or directing them to the person or department they need. Priscilla also does payroll for the entire Department. This is a very time consuming task that requires her full attention every other week. When the Department receives a public records request Priscilla is the one who makes the copies and sees that all items requested are produced.

Another important job that Priscilla takes care of is the personnel files. She is responsible for ensuring they are maintained properly and have all pertinent documents. The Florida Department of Law Enforcement conducts routine inspections of officer's files and the Surfside Police Department has always been recognized as compliant in its paperwork & documentation due to Priscilla's diligent work.

Priscilla's hardwork and dedication to the Department is commendable. She is a pleasure to work with and is well deserving of the "Civilian of the Month" honor.



Priscilla Krutules



SURFSIDE CARES!



Thankfully, Surfside, Florida was spared the wrath of Hurricane Ike. Surfside Beach, Texas was not as lucky as we were. Please join Vice Mayor, Marc Imberman who is spearheading an effort to collect monetary donations to help provide shelter, food, and comfort to the victims of the storm.

Checks should be made payable to the: American Red Cross and in the check memo line, please write: For Surfside Beach, Texas

Checks may be delivered to Dawn Hunziker, Executive Assistant to the Town Manager, at Surfside Town Hall.

All donations will be forwarded to the Disaster Relief Fund, along with a letter requesting that the funds are to be designated for Surfside Beach, Texas.

Recovery and relief donations can also be made directly to the American Red Cross via telephone or the Internet.

American Red Cross National Headquarters

To make a donation:

1 (800) HELP-NOW (1-800-435-7669)

Spanish Speaking: 1 (800) 257-7575

For TDD Operator: 1 (800) 220-4095

Website: www.redcross.org



Moonlight MADDness



Join Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), and the Bal Harbour, Bay Harbor and Surfside Police Departments for a family, fun-filled evening to benefit MADD and your area schools. On Friday, October 17th from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., participants will meet at Ruth K. Broad Bay Harbor Elementary and complete a ½ mile mini walk to the 96th Street beach in Surfside.

The event features a delicious barbeque from Char Hut and music will be provided by Majic 102.7. The evening also includes lighting up the sky by forming MADD's name with glow sticks in the sand, a helicopter flyover and BatMobile tours.

Moonlight MADDness targets elementary school-age children and their parents. Its purpose is to raise awareness of the dangers of underage drinking, and drinking and driving. All proceeds raised from this event will benefit MADD youth alcohol prevention programs and local schools. For \$8.00 you will receive a Moonlight MADDness T-shirt, glow stick, dinner, goodies and music.

Pre-registration is encouraged. For further information, please contact MADD Executive Director, Ms. Janet Mondschein at (305) 273-3744 or Surfside Police Crime Prevention Specialist, Wanda Flores (305) 861-4862, ext. 283

SURFSIDE POLICE CRIME STATISTICS Monthly Activity by Classification

CLASSIFICATION.....	JULY	AUG	+/-
HOMICIDE	0	0	0
INVOLUNTARY SEXUAL BATTERY	0	0	0
LEWD / LASCIVIOUS.....	0	0	0
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT - BATTERY	0	1	1
BURGLARY STRUCTURE.....	4	1	-3
BURGLARY CONVEYANCE	4	5	1
GRAND THEFT	3	2	-1
FRAUD	1	1	0
ROBBERY	0	0	0
GRAND THEFT AUTO	2	0	-2
TOTAL PART ONE CRIMES.....	14	10	-4
BATTERY SIMPLE	2	5	3
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.....	0	0	0
THEFT UNDER.....	4	0	-4
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF	2	0	-2
DRIVING UNDER INFLUENCE	11	7	-4
TOTAL PART II CRIMES	19	12	-7
TRAFFIC CITATIONS	552	465	-87
ARRESTS	51	39	-12
PARKING CITATIONS	656	504	-152

October 2008 Calendar

REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING IS TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, AT 7:00 PM

Beautification Committee.....2nd & 4th Monday of the Month (10/13/08 & 10/27/08)
Education Committee.....1st Thursday of the Month at 8:00 pm (10/02/08)
Green Committee.....1st Wednesday of the Month at 6:30 pm (10/01/08)
Parks & Recreation Committee.....3rd Thursday of the Month, at 7:00 pm (10/16/08)
Planning & Zoning BoardLast Thursday of the Month, at 7:00 pm (10/30/08)

Charter Review Committee.....Monday, October 6 at 7:00 pm

Tourist Bureau.....Monday, Oct. 13 at 6:00 pm in the Parks & Rec/Tourist Bureau Modular

BOND REFERENDUM: PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

Thurs., Oct. 16 at 7:00 pm in Commission Chambers

HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR.....Sunday, October 26, at 1:30 - 3:30 pm, (96th Street Park)

UPCOMING:

Nov. Commission Meeting is re-scheduled to Mon., Nov. 10 at 7:00 pm

ELECTION DAYTues., Nov. 4

BOND REFERENDUM.....Tues., Nov. 4

Veteran's Day Ceremony.....Tues., Nov. 11 at 10:00 am (Veteran's Park)

Please note that all times & dates listed, except Town Commission meetings, are tentative and subject to change.
To verify the information, contact Town Hall at (305) 861-4863 or visit the Website www.townofsurfsidefl.gov



100% of the electricity used to manufacture LOE Dull Text 100lb/148gsm is from Sappi generated renewable energy sources.
LOE contains fiber from well-managed, independently certified forests and contains 30% post consumer recycled fiber.

Town Commission

Charles W. Burkett	Mayor
Marc Imberman	Vice Mayor
Howard S. Weinberg	Commissioner
Steven Levine	Commissioner
Elizabeth Calderon	Commissioner

Town E-Mail

Barguelles@townofsurfsidefl.gov

Town Officials

Gary L. Word	Town Manager
Beatris Arguelles	Town Clerk
Lynn M. Dannheisser	Town Attorney
David E. Allen	Police Chief

Town Commission/Manager E-Mails

mayer@townofsurfsidefl.gov
hweinberg@townofsurfsidefl.gov
mimberman@townofsurfsidefl.gov
slevine@townofsurfsidefl.gov
ecalderon@townofsurfsidefl.gov
gword@townofsurfsidefl.gov

Business Numbers

Town Hall	(305) 861-4863
Community Center	(305) 866-3635
Tennis Courts	(305) 866-5176
Tourist Bureau	(305) 864-0722
Library	(305) 865-2409
Surfside Police Department	(305) 861-4862

Emergency Only

Fire/Police	(305) 861-1115
All Other:	(305) 861-4862

Town of Surfside

P.O. Box 346833
9293 Harding Avenue
Surfside, Florida 33154
www.townofsurfsidefl.gov



PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
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Permit No. 457

Building a Better Surfside

SUPPORT THE SURFSIDE COMMUNITY CENTER
AND AQUATIC COMPLEX BOND REFERENDUM



The Pride of Surfside!
Your Town. Your Future.
VOTE "YES"
ON NOVEMBER 4



On Tuesday, November 4th, Surfside voters will have the opportunity of a lifetime. In response to your demand for a new Town of Surfside Community Center, the Town Commission is proposing this modern “green” facility to be enjoyed by all of our residents. Here’s what Surfside can look forward to in the new, energy efficient, environmentally friendly, LEED* Certified, Community Center and Aquatic Complex:

Aquatic Facility

- 6,000 sq. ft. recreational pool with 5 lap lanes
- Full size water slide with splash area
- 5,000 sq. ft. children’s zero-depth, waterpark-style splash pool
- Pool deck with hot tub, shaded seating, and a concession area

Fitness Center

- A 2,365 sq. ft. gym with free-weights and machines
- Exercise classes including Yoga, Pilates and Cardio
- Men’s and women’s locker rooms with saunas

Beachside Park

- Existing “hard-pack” area to be landscaped for recreational use

Library

- 12 new computer stations
- 2 study rooms for children’s projects or homework
- Children’s reading area & reading stations
- A huge selection of current DVD’s and Videos

Multipurpose Rooms

- Auditorium/ballroom with warming kitchen
- Activity rooms for Bingo, Mahjong, Bridge, etc.
- Senior programs including adult education
- Game room, youth activity room and dance room

Be a part of your Town’s future and VOTE YES! on November 4th.

To learn more, visit: www.townofsurfsidefl.gov

Rendering is artist’s concept. Amenities and programs are subject to change. * LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is a Green Building Rating System™ that encourages and accelerates global adoption of sustainable green building and development practices.



"Surfside Night with the Florida Marlins"



(L-R) Driany Alfonso, Brian Corcoran

Parks & Recreation Fall YOUTH Programs are well underway

Surfside Prima Ballerinas



Surfside Soccer Stars

